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Figs. 28A, 28B, 28C, ^{and 28E} ~~and 28D~~ are diagrams for explaining a signal output method employed by a color image pickup apparatus according to a fifth embodiment of the present invention;

5 Fig. 29 is a circuit diagram showing the color image pickup apparatus according to the embodiment;

 Fig. 30 is a timing chart for a signal output method in Fig. 28A;

10 Fig. 31 is a timing chart for a signal output method in Fig. 28B;

 Fig. 32 is a timing chart for a signal output method in Fig. 28C;

 Fig. 33 is a timing chart for a signal output method in Fig. 28D;

15 Fig. 34 is a diagram showing a two pixel arrangement using a common amplifier;

 Fig. 35 is a diagram showing a four pixel arrangement using a common amplifier;

20 Fig. 36 is a diagram for explaining an adjustment gain for each signal output method;

 Fig. 37 is a block diagram showing an example pickup system using the color pickup apparatus of this embodiment;

25 Fig. 38 is a diagram showing a layout for unit cells according to a sixth embodiment of the present invention;

 Fig. 39 is a diagram showing a layout for unit